

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 8, 2004. Claims 9-10 have been canceled. New claims 21-22 have been added. Thus, claims 1-8 and 11-22 are now pending.

Claim 1

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Niblack in view of Katinsky. This new Section 103(a) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 as amended requires "*when a folder in the folder selection region [e.g., tree display region W4 in Fig. 11] is selected then files from the selected folder are displayed by the file display means in the file display region as icons . . . wherein a display screen of the file processing apparatus is divided into at least four different areas at a given point in time so as to include each of the file display region, the folder selection region, the selected display region, and a process display region, so that the display screen simultaneously displays each of the following at the given point in time:*

*(a) the folders for selection in the folder selection region [e.g., tree display region W4 in Fig. 11], (b) the icons of the plurality of predetermined files in the file display region which are from selected folder(s) from the folder selection region, (c) at least the selected file in the selected display region which is different than the file display region, and (d) process icons in the process display region indicative of processes that the selected file can be subjected to; and wherein a user can select files from a first folder when the first*

*folder is selected in the folder selection region, and can thereafter select different files from a second folder when the second folder is selected in the folder selection region, so that the selected files from the first folder and the selected files from the second folder are displayed simultaneously in the selected display region and can be subjected to processing together when a process icon in the process display region is selected." For example, see Figs. 11-14, 17 and 20-22, and pages 16-22, of the instant application.*

For purposes of example and without limitation, Fig. 11 of the instant application illustrates that display screen simultaneously displays each of the following at the given point in time: (a) the tree of folders in tree form in the folder section region W4, (b) the icons of the plurality of predetermined files in the file display region W1 which are from selected folder(s) from the folder selection region W4, (c) at least the selected file in the selected display region W2 which is different than the file display region, and (d) process icons in the process display region W3 indicative of processes that the selected file can be subjected to. When a folder in the folder selection region W4 is selected, then files from this selected folder are displayed by the file display means in the file display region W1 as icons (e.g., pg. 16, lines 12-20). Thus, using this unique system, a user can select files from a first folder via window W1 when the first folder is selected in the folder selection region/window W4, and thereafter when a second folder is selected in the file selection region W4 so that file from the second folder are now displayed in window W1, the user can select files from the second folder when the second folder is selected in W4; whereby selected files from the first folder and the selected files from the second folder are

displayed simultaneously in the selected display region and can be subjected to processing together when a process icon in the process display region is selected (e.g., pg. 17, lines 10-25).

The aforesaid italicized aspects of claim 1 are not disclosed or suggested by the cited art, either taken alone or in combination. In particular, both Niblack and Katinsky fail to disclose or suggest that when a folder in a folder selection region is selected then files from the selected folder are displayed by the file display means in the file display region as icons as required by claim 1. Moreover, both Niblack and Katinsky fail to disclose or suggest a display screen that simultaneously displays (a)-(d) as required by claim 1. Additionally, both Niblack and Katinsky fail to disclose or suggest a user selecting files from a first folder when the first folder is selected in the folder selection region, and thereafter selecting different files from a second folder when the second folder is selected in the folder selection region, so that the selected files from the first folder and the selected files from the second folder are displayed simultaneously in the selected display region and can be subjected to processing together when a process icon in the process display region is selected as required by claim 1. Since both Niblack and Katinsky fail to disclose or suggest each of these aspects of claim 1, the claim cannot be met even if the two references were combined (which applicant believes would be incorrect in any event). Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

Claim 21

Claim 21 requires that “when a file displayed in the selected display region is clicked, then its icon is highlighted in the selected display region and the folder containing the clicked file is highlighted in the tree display window.” E.g., see Fig. 13, and page 18, lines 7-15). Again, the cited art fails to disclose or suggest this aspect of claim 21.

Claim 22

Claim 22 requires “file display means for displaying a tree of folders in tree form in a tree display window, and for displaying a plurality of predetermined files in a predetermined file display region as icons, wherein when a folder in the tree display region is selected then files from the selected folder are displayed by the file display means in the file display region as icons . . . wherein a display screen of the file processing apparatus is divided into at least four different areas at a given point in time so as to include each of the file display region, the tree display window, the selected display region, and a process display region, so that the display screen simultaneously displays each of the following at the given point in time: (a) the tree of folders in tree form in the tree display window, (b) the icons of the plurality of predetermined files in the file display region which are from selected folder(s) from the tree display window, (c) at least the selected file in the selected display region which is different than the file display region, and (d) process icons in the process display region indicative of processes that the selected file can be subjected to; and wherein a user can select files from a first folder

when the first folder is selected in the tree display window, and can thereafter select different files from a second folder when the second folder is selected in the tree display window, so that the selected files from the first folder and the selected files from the second folder are displayed simultaneously in the selected display region and can be subjected to processing together when a process icon in the process display region is selected." For example, see Figs. 11-14, 17 and 20-22, and pages 16-22, of the instant application.

For purposes of example and without limitation, Fig. 11 of the instant application illustrates that display screen simultaneously displays each of the following at the given point in time: (a) the tree of folders in tree form in the tree display window W4, (b) the icons of the plurality of predetermined files in the file display region W1 which are from selected folder(s) from the tree display window W4, (c) at least the selected file in the selected display region W2 which is different than the file display region, and (d) process icons in the process display region W3 indicative of processes that the selected file can be subjected to. When a folder in the tree display region W4 is selected, then files from this selected folder are displayed by the file display means in the file display region W1 as icons (e.g., pg. 16, lines 12-20). Thus, using this unique system, a user can select files from a first folder via window W1 when the first folder is selected in the tree display window W4, and can thereafter when a second folder is selected in the tree display window W4 so that file from the second folder are now display in window W1, the user can select files from the second folder when the second folder is selected in W4; whereby

selected files from the first folder and the selected files from the second folder are displayed simultaneously in the selected display region and can be subjected to processing together when a process icon in the process display region is selected (e.g., pg. 17, lines 10-25).

The aforesaid underlined aspects of claim 22 are not disclosed or suggested by the cited art, either taken alone or in combination. In particular, both Niblack and Katinsky fail to disclose or suggest the tree display window which displays a tree of folders in tree form as required by claim 22. Moreover, both Niblack and Katinsky fail to disclose or suggest that when a folder in the tree display region is selected then files from the selected folder are displayed by the file display means in the file display region as icons as required by claim 22. Still further, both Niblack and Katinsky fail to disclose or suggest a display screen that simultaneously displays (a)-(d) as required by claim 22. Additionally, both Niblack and Katinsky fail to disclose or suggest a user selecting files from a first folder when the first folder is selected in the tree display window, and thereafter selecting different files from a second folder when the second folder is selected in the tree display window, so that the selected files from the first folder and the selected files from the second folder are displayed simultaneously in the selected display region and can be subjected to processing together when a process icon in the process display region is selected as required by claim 22. Since both Niblack and Katinsky fail to disclose or suggest each of these aspects of claim 22, the claim cannot be met even if the

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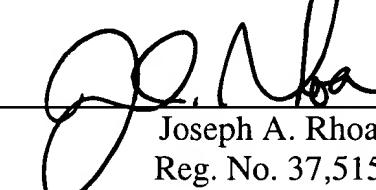
two references were combined (which applicant believes would be incorrect in any event). Accordingly, claim 22 clearly defines over the art of record.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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